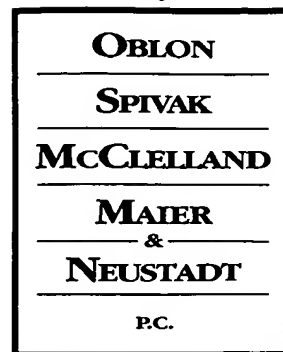


Docket No.: 218209US3



COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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RE: Application Serial No.: 10/050,866
Applicants: Kiyoshi YOSHIKUNI, et al.
Filing Date: January 18, 2002
For: ONBOARD FUEL CELL SYSTEM AND METHOD
OF DISCHARGING HYDROGEN-OFF GAS
Group Art Unit: 1746
Examiner: HODGE, Robert W.

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Restriction Response

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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DOCKET NO: 218209US3



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
KIYOSHI YOSHIKUMI, ET AL. : EXAMINER: HODGE, ROBERT W.
SERIAL NO: 10/050,866 :
FILED: JANUARY 18, 2002 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1746
FOR: ONBOARD FUEL CELL SYSTEM :
AND METHOD OF DISCHARGING
HYDROGEN-OFF GAS

RESTRICTION RESPONSE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated November 1 2004, Applicants herein elect group I corresponding to claims 1-23, drawn to an onboard fuel cell system, classified in class 429, subclass 34, **with traverse** for prosecution in the present application.

Applicant traverses the outstanding Restriction Requirement as the outstanding Restriction Requirement has not established that an undue burden would be required if the Restriction Requirement was not issued and if all the claims were examined together. More particularly, MPEP §803 states:

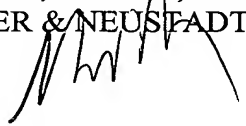
If the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions.

Application No. 10/050,866
Reply to Office Action of November 18, 2004

In the present application any search of the elected device claims would also include the classes and subclasses appropriate for searching the method claims, and so then would be no undue burden if all of the claims were examined together.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



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